

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 230740

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 AID-05 AGR-05 AGRE-00

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 IGA-02 L-03 /055 R

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APPROVED BY EB/OF/FFD - RMOGDEN

EB/OF -JFERCH

IO/AGR - JWOLFE

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P 171744Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION OECD PARIS PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EAGR

SUBJECT: EC PROPOSAL TO DIVERSIFY PRODUCTS IN 10 MILLION
TON FOOD AID TARGET

REF: SPILLMAN/OGDEN TELCON

FOR USDEL TO CIEC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

1. USDEL SHOULD NOT AGREE TO EC LANGUAGE PROPOSING
DIVERSIFICATION OF COMMODITIES INCLUDED IN WORLD FOOD
CONFERENCE 10 MILLION TON FOOD AID TARGET. IF NECESSARY
TO EXPLAIN ITS POSITION, USDEL MAY DRAW ON FOLLOWING
POINTS:

A. RESOLUTION 18 OF WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE SETS 10 MILLION
TONFOOD AID TARGET IN TERMS OF GRAINS
US SUPPORTS THIS GRAIN TARGET BECAUSE GRAINS ARE THE MOST
IMPORTANT FOOD AID COMMODITIES, NUMBER OF DONORS IS SUBSTAN
TIAL AND GRAINS ;AVE WIDE ACCEPTABILITY AND UTILITY.

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PAGE 02 STATE 230740

B. WE DON'T SUPPORT DIVERSIFICATION OF GRAINS TARGET TO INCLUDE OTHER COMMODITIES SUCH AS FATS AND OILS, DAIRY PRODUCTS, FISH AND FISH PRODUCTS, BECAUSE THE NUMBER OF ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL DONORS ARE MORE LIMITED AND USES, WHILE IMPORTANT, ARE MORE RESTRICTED. ACCEPTANCE OF THESE COMMODITIES AS PART OF THE 10 MILLION TON FIGURE WOULD CREATE OPPORTUNITY FOR SUB-QUOTAS BEING ESTABLISHED FOR THEM AND LATER PERHAPS SEPARATE TARGET FIGURES. WE WISH TO AVOID THIS POSSIBILITY.

2. IF USDEL WISHES, IT MAY MAKE SUGGESTION THAT EC PROPOSAL BE SUBSTITUTED BY LANGUAGE ALONG THE FOLLOWING LINES:

"CIEC URGES FOOD AID DONOR NATIONS TO MAKE THEIR BEST EFFORTS TO INCREASE FOOD AID COMMITMENTS IN THE TWO MAJOR MULTILATERAL FOOD AID PLEDGING FORA, THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AND THE FOOD AID CONVENTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT. BELIEVE THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE WELL RECEIVED BY LDCS AND WITHOUT COMMITTING US TO ANYTHING SPECIFIC, WOULD KEEP FOCUS OF FOOD AID ACTIVITIES WHERE WE WANT IT, I.E. WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AND FOOD AID CONVENTION. ROBINSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, FOODS, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: BoyleJA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE230740
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: RMOGDEN/SJOHNSON/LW
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760352-0036
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760947/aaaaboax.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: BoyleJA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by CollinP0>; APPROVED <12 AUG 2004 by BoyleJA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: EC PROPOSAL TO DIVERSIFY PRODUCTS IN 10 MILLION TON FOOD AID TARGET
TAGS: EAID, EAGR, US
To: OECD PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006